## In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 2, 3, and 4.

Please amend claim 1 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of using a set of calibration standards comprised of a plurality of ferromagnetic slugs to provide a temperature calibration for a VTGA vacuum thermogravimetric analyzer (VTGA) comprising:

selecting a plurality of ferromagnetic slugs wherein each slug includes an alloy including nickel and copper and wherein the amount of copper is within the range of 15% to 28%;

determining the Curie temperature of a each slug;

placing the <u>each</u> slug in a sample holder of a VTGA within a magnetic field;

setting a temperature of the VTGA to a temperature corresponding to a <a href="first">first</a> set-point temperature greater than the Curie temperature of the each slug by an amount equal to a first offset value;

holding the temperature of the VTGA at a temperature corresponding to a said first set-point temperature for a first time interval sufficient to allow the VTGA to thermally equilibrate;

increasing the temperature of the VTGA to a <u>second</u> set-point temperature greater than an immediately preceding set-point by <u>an</u> amount equal to a second offset value;

holding the temperature of the VTGA at a temperature corresponding to a <a href="mailto:said">said</a> set-point temperature for a second time interval sufficient to allow the VTGA to thermally equilibrate; and,

if the <u>each</u> slug does not lose magnetization, then repeating the previous two operations, afterwards returning to this test; but if not, then recording the setpoint temperature at which the <u>each</u> slug loses magnetization as the apparent Curie temperature of the <u>each</u> slug.

- 2. (Cancelled)
- 3. (Cancelled)
- 4. (Cancelled)